(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to the import of huge quantity of edible oils, the farmers are forced to sell the oilseeds even below the minimum support price; and

(d) if so, the precautionary steps being taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) All types of edible oil (Chapter 15 of ITC (HS) except of animal origin and Coconut (Copra) Oil and its fractions are importable without licence subject to payment of duty. The import of edible oils of animal origin are prohibited. The details of import of edible oil made during each of the last three years and thereafter (latest available) are as under:

Quantity in Tonnes Value in Rs. Lakhs

	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		APR-05-AUG-05(Provisional)	
Item	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Edible oil	4365033	877964	5290296	1168324	4674702	1090348	1685493	349538.8

(c) and (d) In order to ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to any hardship, the Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items including edible oils.

Import duties on a number of items including edible oils have been increased in the last 5 years wherever necessary. Further, the Government is also implementing a number of development programmes to increase the competitiveness of the Indian farmer. These include introduction of improved farming technology, improved availability of inputs including water, credit and fertilizer and price support through the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).

Export of services

17. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the growth registered in the export of services during each of the last three years, sector-wise;

(b) whether India is still lagging behind China, Korea and other countries in export of services; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to increase the export of services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) As per the statistics provided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), sector-wise export of services during each of the last three years is as under:

(In US$ billions)

Sectors	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Travel	3.31	4.12	5.03
Transportation	2.54	3.26	5.05
Insurance	0.37	0.42	1.02
*GNIE	0.29	0.28	0.40
Miscellaneous	14.25	16.87	39.83
Of which software	9.60	12.20	17.30
TOTAL	20.76	24.95	51.33
Percentage Growth	21.1%	20.2%	105.7%

Source RBI

*Government not included elsewhere (GNIE) includes inward remittance towards maintenance of foreign embassies, diplomatic missions and international/regional institutions in India.

(b) and (c) As per the World Trade Organisation (WTO) data on export of commercial services for 2004, India is the 22nd largest exporter of commercial services in the world with its market share at 1.5% of gloal exports (China is at 9th rank and Korea at 15th rank). However, the rate of growth in 2004-05 at 105.7% has been one of the highest in the world. It has been the endeavour of the Government to accelerate the export of services on countinuing basis depending upon the requirement of exporters and the global scenario. Some of the steps taken by the Government recently to boost export of services include; providing Duty Free Credit Entitlement facility to service exporters; conferring Star Export House status on service exporters on the basis of their total foreign exchange earnings in the current plus the previous three years which entitles them to the

various export benefits as per para 3.5.2.1 of the Foreign Trade Policy, financial assistance to service exporters under Market Access Initiative (MAI) and Market Development Assistance (MDA) Schemes for export promotional/developmental activities.

Export of fruits and vegetables

†18. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of export of fruits and vegetables from concerned States during last three years;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to augment the export of fruits and vegetables from concerned States;

(c) whether the percentage of export of fruits and vegetables from concerned States is satisfactory in comparison to this production;

(d) if so, the details thereof and what balancing measures have been taken in this regard; and

(e) the names of the countries to whom export of fruits and vegetables is made and the quantum of exports thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) State-wise details of export of fruits and vegetables are not maintained. Even though India is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world its share of world exports of the same is very low. Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) has been making efforts to promote export of fruits and vegetable from India through schemes for financial assistance to exporters for setting up of cold storages, pack houses and other infrastructure. It is extending assistance for setting up of perishable cargo centres at airports. Transport assistance is being provided to exporters on export of specified fruits and vegetables. APEDA also participates in fairs and exhibitions abroad to promote Indian agri produce.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.